

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
2430 E Street, NW
Washington 25, D. C.

9 September 1948

[redacted]
Communications Division
Philips Export Corporation
100 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

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This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 24, 1948.

Monrovia, Liberia, is situated in the tropics and is therefore subject to the usual high static level characteristic of the tropics. It is situated too far from broadcasting stations using medium-wave (standard broadcast band) to offer reception in that portion of the spectrum. The short-wave broadcasting bands of 9, 11, 15, 17 and 21 megacycles should offer good reception at the respective times of day when each band is used, and the short-wave bands of 4-8, 6 and 7 megacycles will be satisfactory some evenings.

Fading is characteristic of short-wave reception, but it is usually of the rapid or flutter type and may be minimized by the use of directional aeriels. Broadcasts from the United States are not beamed toward Africa and will therefore be considerably inferior to those of the BBC London which are beamed toward Africa.

The short-wave spectrum is overcrowded and interference among stations is a frequent problem. Lack of selectivity in the radio receiver also aggravates interference conditions.

"Excessive noise" and "humming sounds" may be the result of defective or worn parts in the radio receiver (which if not tropic-proofed will deteriorate rapidly in that climate). They may also result from deficiencies in the power generating source or from electrical and mechanical apparatus, including automobiles, in the neighborhood of the receiver and antenna.

Sincerely,

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L. K. White

NFK:hmc

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